IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-21 and replace with the following new claims.

--22. A transdermal therapeutic system comprising a redetachable protective layer; a pressure-sensitive adhesive reservoir layer; and a backing layer comprising a unidirectional elastic material having an elasticity of at least 20%.

23. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a coating of pressure-sensitive adhesive.

24. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 which is a patch.

25. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises longitudinally elastic material.

26. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the elasticity of the backing layer is less than 150%.

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27. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer projects beyond the reservoir layer on all sides.

28. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 23 further comprising a separating layer between the reservoir layer and the backing layer.

29. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 20-80%.

30. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 29 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 40-70%.

31. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 30 wherein the elastic material of the backing layer has an elasticity of between 44-56%.

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32. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the material comprising the backing layer is more than 90% microbially nondegradable.

33. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 32 wherein the material comprising the backing layer is more than 99% microbially nondegradable.

34. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises a woven fabric, a nonwoven fabric or a film.

35. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a polyethylene, a polypropylene and a polyester.

36. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 35 wherein the backing layer comprises a polyalkylene terephthalate.

37. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 36 wherein the backing material is a polyterephthalic diester.

38. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 37 wherein the backing material is a polyterephthalic acid diol ester obtainable by the reaction of a starting material selected from ethylene glycol, 1,4-butanediol, 1,4-dihydroxymethylcyclohexane, terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, adipic acid, azelaic acid, sebacic acid, dimethyl terephthalate, dimethyl azelate, dimethyl sebacate, bisphenol A diglycidyl ether, n-decane-1,10-dicarboxylic acid, polyethylene glycol and polybutylene glycol.

39. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the reservoir layer comprises at least one active substance selected from the group consisting of a psychopharmaceutical, an analgesic and a hormone.

40. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 39 wherein the active ingredient is oestriol, buprenorphine or a parasympathomimetic.

41. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the reservoir layer contains a water-absorbing polymer.

42. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 41 wherein the water-absorbing polymer is a polyvinylpyrrolidone.

43. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 42 wherein the polyvinylpyrrolidone has a molecular weight in the range of 1×10^3 to 2×10^6.

44. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer which faces outwards has a differentiated marking element.

45. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 44 wherein the marking element is a colored marking.

46. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 45 wherein the colored marking is in strip form or a colored thread.

47. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 44 wherein the marking element has an elasticity of between -20% to +20% relative to the elasticity of the remaining portion of the backing layer.

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53. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a number of warp threads in the range from 300 to 350 per 10 cm of unextended fabric.

54. A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22.

55. A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 39.

56. A method of treating pain or drug dependency comprising administering an active substance in the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 40.

57. A method or producing the transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 comprising the steps of inserting pressure-sensitive adhesive substance reservoir sections in a sequence in the longitudinal direction into a presupplied strip-like laminate comprising a redetachable protective layer and a backing layer

48. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a water vapor permeability of at least 0.1 $g/m^2/h$.

49. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 48 wherein the backing layer has a water vapor permeability of between 1 to 20 $g/m^2/h$.

50. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 comprising pores wherein the areal proportion of pores having a size of $\leq$ 400 um^2 is between 10% to 50%.

51. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 22 wherein the backing layer has a number of warp threads in the range from 300 to 350 per 10 cm of unextended fabric and a number of weft threads in the range from 100 to 140 per 10 cm of unextended fabric.

52. The transdermal therapeutic system of claim 51 wherein the number of weft threads is in the range from 120 to 130.